

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01

NIC-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 /116 W
----- 108416

R 110937Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1443

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUDAPEST 1483

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HU, US

SUBJ: EDITORIAL ON PRESIDENT'S ANNAPOLIS SPEECH

1. WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT OF PARTY DAILY NEPSZABADSAG REPORTED JUNE 7 AMERICAN "REACTION" TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S ANNAPOLIS SPEECH. EDITORIAL SAID PRESIDENT'S SPEECH, STRESSING ABSOLUTE NECESSITY OF DETENTE POLICY, WAS NOT BROADCAST BY ANY RADIO OR TV STATION, ADDING THAT US PRESS EXPRESSED ITS REGRET THAT "PRESIDENT DOES NOT ACCEPT COUNSEL OF IRRESPONSIBLE POLITICIANS LIKE JACKSON WHO QUESTION NECESSITY OF SOVIET-AMERICAN SALT TALKS IN CONTEXT OF AMERICAN NATIONAL SECURITY".

2. NEPSZABADSAG DECLARED THAT "THESE CIRCLES (OPPOSED TO DETENTE) FEAR THAT PRESIDENT WILL MAKE CONCESSIONS UNDER SOVIET PRESSURE AT MOSCOW TALKS DUE TO HIS POSITION
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OF WEAKNESS. AT THE SAME TIME THEY DO ALL POSSIBLE TO

WEAKEN AND UNDERMINE POSITION OF PRESIDENT IN FOREIGN, DOMESTIC AND POLITICAL MATTERS IN ORDER TO SECURE REMOVAL OF PRESIDENT AND ELIMINATION OF HIS FOREIGN POLICY." EDITORIAL THEN CLAIMS THAT "ACTIVITY OF ANTI-DETENTE FORCES IS NO DOUBT HARMFUL AND POISONOUS...BUT FORTUNATELY CAMP OF POLITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IS STRONG ENOUGH TO COUNTERBALANCE HARMFUL ACTIVITY OF POISONERS OF POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE".

3. ALTHOUGH HUNGARIAN PRESS CONSISTENTLY HAS LINKED WATERGATE INVESTIGATION TO OPPONENTS OF DETENTE, THIS ARTICLE REPRESENTS ONE OF STRONGEST ATTACKS TO DATE AGAINST PRESIDENT'S DOMESTIC CRITICS. HUNGARIAN LEADERS HAVE GENUINELY WELCOMED DETENTE AS A DEVICE, UNDER COERCION OF SOVIET POLICY, TO IMPROVE THEIR WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH WEST. THUS, NEPSZABADSAG'S EXPRESSION OF CONCERN RE EAST-WEST DETENTE IS TRUE REFLECTION OF FEAR THAT GROUP OF "COLD WARRIORS" IN US MIGHT BE ABLE TO AT LEAST SLOW DOWN PACE OF EAST-WEST COOPERATION. AT SAME TIME NEPSZABADSAG'S STANCE DOES NOTHING TO DAMAGE OTHER ASPECT OF GOH OFFICIAL OUTLOOK, I.E., HUNGARIANS BELIEVE IT IS POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE DETENTE BUT IF FOR SOME REASON IT IS NOT ACCOMPLISHED, RECORD WILL SHOW IT WAS NOT BECAUSE OF WP INTTRANSIGENCE OR LACK OF INITIATIVE (BUDAPEST 1390).
MUDD

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